CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Intelligence Information Cable

PRIORITY

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SECRET

120825Z CITE

DIST 12 MARCH 1968

COUNTRY: LAOS

DOI: 11 AND 12 MARCH 1968

SUBJECT: STATUS OF SURVIVORS FROM PHOU PHA THI, SITE 85, AND SECURE GUERRILLA BASES IN AREA AROUND PHOU PHA THI

ACQ: LAOS, VIENTIANE (12 MARCH 1968) FIELD NO: [redacted]

SOURCE: [redacted]

1. BY 1545 HOURS ON 11 MARCH 1968 AT LEAST 129 OF THE 203 MEN WHO HAD BEEN DEFENDING THE CREST OF PHOU PHA THI (UH 664615) HAD BEEN EVACUATED TO NA KHANG (UH 4110, SITE 36). IN ADDITION MANY OF THE AUTO-DEFENSE DE CHOC AND GUERRILLA DEFENDERS EVACUATED BY TRAILS OVERLAND. BECUASE OF THE TASK OF TALLYING UP ALL SURVIVORS REACHING NA KHANG AND OTHER SAFE AREAS, A TOTAL ACCURATE COUNT WAS NOT AVAILABLE ON THE MORNING OF 12 MARCH. MOST OF THE DEFENDERS OF PHOU PHA THI APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN RECOVERED.

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2. PRELIMINARY DEBRIEFINGS OF THE DEFENDERS INDICATE THAT THE ENEMY PARTY THAT ARRIVED AT THE TACAN SITE CONSISTED OF ONLY ABOUT 20 MEN.

3. THE DEFENDERS OF THE SITE PARTIALLY DESTROYED THE TACAN BY HEAVY WEAPONS FIRE; A-1-E AIRCRAFT COMPLETED ITS DESTRUCTION BY A SERIES OF AIR STRIKES.

4. BY THE MORNING OF 12 MARCH THE GUERRILLA DEFENDERS OF PHOU PHA THI HELD HOUEI KHA MOUN (UH 6868), SITE 111; AND PHOU TIA (ALSO PHOU CHE) (UH 4364), SITE 185. THEY HAD ABANDONED HOUEI MA (UH 6253), SITE 107.

5. FIELD DISSEM: STATE ARMY AIR USMACV 7TH AIR FORCE CINCPAC PACFLT PACAF ARPAC

REPORT CLASS SECRET NO FOREIGN DISSEM

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